THE

British Packet,

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

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BUENOS AYRES.

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REPUBLICAN ARMY.—CAMPAIGN OF 1828.

SEVENTH BULLETIN.

May 1. Nothing occurred. 2. A party of the enemy appeared in the pass of *Las Piedras del Yaguaron*, which point was reinforced, in case they should attempt the passage. 3. A party of our troops passed to the other side, and dispersed the enemy's force; three were wounded upon their part, and two upon ours. Commandant Manuel Olazabal who had been sent yesterday with a force to protect our foraging parties bringing in cattle, returned on the 4th, having accomplished his mission, but with the loss of Captain Serrano, of the *Colorados*, killed in a skirmish with the enemy. 8. Received intelligence that two battalions of the enemy had mutinied in their camp, and that although it was quelled, they lost a great many men by desertion. The ringleaders were flogged to death. Also, that two battalions of infantry and some cavalry had marched for Rio Grande. A German deserter arrived.

9. The vanguard sent in two deserters from the dragoons *Rio Pardo*; another that had deserted with them was drowned in endeavouring to pass the Yaguaron. 12. Commandant Raña advised his having attacked a party of the enemy in *Los Cerros del Baul*, commanded by an officer named Americo, who was killed, and likewise four soldiers. We made one prisoner. A German deserter arrived this day. 15. Two deserters from the dragoons, *Rio Pardo*, came in. A party under the orders of Colonel Servando Gomez, met with some of the enemy upon the other side of the Yaguaron; he attacked and dispersed them, having killed 8 men and taken 30 horses. 17. Six German deserters arrived, including a serjeant and 2 corporals. 18. Col. Latorre sent in 4 deserters, viz.: 3 Germans and a countryman. An enemy's force having approached the pass of *Las Piedras*, ensign Gonzales was ordered to drive back their advanced parties, which he effected; they had 8 men killed and several wounded; we had ensign Gonzales and one soldier wounded. 20. A German deserter arrived. 21. A reconnoitring party near *Los Cerros del Quilombo*, dispersed an enemy's advanced guard, killing one and taking two prisoners. We had on our part one wounded. 22. Colonel Gomez with 120 men, having marched in order, amongst other things, to reconnoitre the enemy's country, and to acquire a perfect knowledge of it, found that they had placed an ambuscade of 1000 men a quarter of a league in his rear; a retreat was ordered, and two skirmishing parties under the orders of Captains Moreno and Rodriguez were detached to cover the retreat. The enemy attacked this force, but could not gain any advantage, being kept in check by the fire of the skirmishers, and by the intrepidity of the soldiers, who when they found themselves attacked, wheeled round in order to charge. The enemy, upon observing this, halted and ceased to pursue for the moment; returning however, as soon as the retreat recommenced. In this manner the division of Col. Gomez repassed the Yaguaron, through a narrow path, without any other misfortune than the loss of a serjeant. We observed that the enemy had several wounded. The Colonel ordered part of his force to dismount, to hinder the enemy from passing the river; but they did not attempt to cross it. 23. General D. Juan Lavalle joined the army.

24. The army, without losing sight of its duties, commenced the celebration of the anniversary of the grand day of South America, the 25th May. This happy day, in which were burst the chains and broken all the ties, that bound us to the car of Spanish tyranny, proclaimed in the face of the universe the holy principles of our liberty,—the equality of rights, and the triumph of justice and reason;—we then swore to sustain these principles to the last drop of our blood: this sacred compromise was also sworn to by our children, and they have not deviated from their oaths. The blood of the Argentines has streamed in torrents during 18 years for the world of Colon, and continues to flow with the same ardour—to preserve and insure for ever the inestimable rights which we have recovered, and which by infatuation, the despot who oppresses Brazil, wishes to deprive us of, and whom we have taught in one and in every combat, that against free men all the force of tyranny becomes weak.

Head Quarters, Cerro Largo, May 31, 1828.

(Signed,) JOAQUIN REVILLO.

It seems tolerably certain that the Deputies to treat for Peace will proceed to Rio Janeiro in the Redpole Packet, which is at present posted to sail on Tuesday next, and there is great probability that their efforts will prove successful. The Emperor they say, will carry on the war as long as he has a patacone in his Treasury; it is solely his own war, and not that of the people, being directly contrary to the real

interests of Brazil. Obstinate as he is, he must by this time perceive that he is playing a very foolish and desperate game. The war has not ruined Buenos Ayres: it has inflicted great injury—granted; it has also conferred some benefits: it has made the people acquainted with their own country, and nothing is required but a strong government to render even this Province powerful.

No part of the Message lately sent to the Junta is more important than that which alludes to the establishment at Bahia Blanca. The other ports upon the coast, but little known until this period, will contribute to make the country maritime. Buenos Ayres has been blockaded during 30 months at a ruinous expense to Brazil, and the shops and warehouses continue full of goods—no absolute scarcity existing of any article of domestic use. By continuing the war the Emperor of course expects ultimate success; but what feasible reasons can he have for such expectation, now that the Provinces of the Republic give their aid to the cause? It cannot be in the efforts of the Brazilian troops; they are pursued into their own territory, foreigners seizing every opportunity to desert, and should they venture a pitched battle, their utter destruction will probably ensue! The Republican army have on the contrary, become veteran: the soldiers of the revolution mingled with the enthusiastic "elevés" of the present day; they are engaged too in a *foreign war*: a war in which *all* are unanimous. The conduct of the Brazilian navy in the various combats with the diminutive squadron of their opponents—the present state of Buenos Ayres, after a lengthened blockade, speaks more than any comments can do.

The following extract from a late number of the Edinburgh Review is not inapplicable to the present circumstances of this country; it says—

"No one can be a friend to humanity, and to the best interests of the human race, who is not also a decided friend to peace; but at the same time, it is useless to exaggerate the evils of war, and perhaps were the subject properly investigated, it would be found that national struggles how afflicting soever to humanity, are not so unfavourable as is commonly supposed, to the progress of civilization and the arts; but whatever opinion may be entertained on this point, we should recollect that wars when undertaken in a just cause, and it is of such only that we are now speaking, are the means of avoiding a still greater evil; nor can it be doubted that the privations occasioned by the most destructive contest, are a very inferior evil to the loss of political independence and national exisstence. It is certainly most true, that no enlightened Government will ever rashly engage in a contest, or will ever indeed engage in it at all, if it can possibly be avoided with safety and honour; but forbearance has its limits, and no people who set a proper value on their best interests, or entertain a just sense of what they owe to themselves, will ever hesitate about resorting to arms to repel and avenge foreign aggression—to vindicate their independence, nor to defend their rights and liberties from outrage and attack."

Summum crede nefas animam præferre pudori
Et propter vitam, vivendi perdere causas.

La Espada Argentina, a newspaper to be published on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, has made its appearance this week.

A Notice has been posted in the British Commercial room, dated British Consulate, Buenos Ayres, June 25, 1828, from H. M's. Consul General, with the copy of a decree which has been obtained by Mr. Gordon, H. M's. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Brazil, respecting the term granted for the deposit of goods in Monte Video, destined for Buenos Ayres: by which the limitation of that term to three months, fixed by the decree of the 27th of March last, is only to count from the reception of new orders upon the subject at Monte Video, viz., from the 28th ultimo, on which day it appears by a letter from Mr. Hood, they were communicated to the Custom house at that place.

Some German soldiers have lately escaped from Monte Video, among them a Captain. 22 soldiers of that nation, late in the Brazilian service, were at Las Vacas, waiting a passage for Buenos Ayres, as also Col. Pacheco.

Letters from the Salado state that the British frigate *Thetis*, and sloop of war *Heron*, anchored off that port on 27th ult, sent a boat with despatches, and sailed again on 29th. We have received several communications upon the above event, expressing fears that prizes or other vessels, supposing the British ships to be Brazilians, would be frightened away, and in all probability, fall into the power of their enemies.

The assertions of Lord Strangford respecting the South American States, and of Buenos Ayres in particular, have been replied to in the London papers by correspondents of the said journals; and Sir Robert Wilson spoke to the following effect in the House of Commons on the 1st April:—that "he was desirous that the South American States should see that if there were persons who traduced them unjustly, and used harsh and severe language toward them in this country, that there were also others who, wholly disinterested, would come forward to defend and vindicate their character; and the assertion that Buenos Ayres only carried on a corsair warfare to the prejudice of others, and benefit of themselves, the reverse was the fact." Sir Robert then went into details of the trade of Buenos Ayres during the years 1823, 24, and 25, showing that their exports averaged 11 millions of dollars, and their imports 8, the profits of which were much greater than any they could derive from a state of war. The entire Speech is worthy perusal, and will afford pleasure to those who have the interest of the South American States at heart.

General Rondeau has been appointed Minister of War and Marine during the absence of Don Juan Ramon Balcarce upon his mission as one of the Deputies to Rio Janeiro, and General Marcus Balcarce, Inspector General.

The rain on 30th ult. interrupted the festivities at San Isidro in honor of the 25th of May. The illuminations and fire works on 28th and 29th were very brilliant, and the spectators numerous.

The Theatre at Monte Video has been much improved lately; a newspaper of that city, *El Observador*, contains some strictures upon the state of the drama there.

Mademoiselle Sontag made her debut at the Opera house in London on the 15th April last, in the character of *Rosina*, in *El Barbiere di Seviglia*. So many romantic accounts had been circulated of her extraordinary beauty and vocal talents, that much curiosity was excited; the London papers abound in criticisms and details upon the occasion. The Times observes, that "her voice is a first rate soprano, supposed to reach from the A. below the lines to the high D., that she surpasses Madame Catalani in facility of execution, but is inferior to her in power of voice, and rates her personal beauty only as being a *pretty woman*, about 22 years of age, in person rather above the middle size, and extremely elegant." This cold praise is compensated by the enthusiastic eulogiums of the other journals, who describe her as "an earthly angel, almost too lovely for the gaze of mortals—a fair haired beauty, with eyes of beaming blue;" and rapturously comment upon her angelic face, alabaster forehead, teeth of ivory white, &c. &c., adding that she is a native of Coblentz. In Buenos Ayres fair complexions are greatly admired, therefore Miss Sontag would be a favourite here; and yet this city already contains a *fair haired beauty with eyes of beaming blue.* In our time dark haired beauties were the favorites in London, so that the Circassian lady who arrived there from Persia in 1819, and only seen by the privilileged few, was not thought so much of, report having stated her to be of fair complexion; scandal too was very busy at that period: it was affirmed that when the Sultan of Persia inquired in what our Monarch took most delight, he reeeived for answer, that it was in beautiful women and fine horses; in consequence of which the *Circassian beauty*, and a train of horses with red tails, (not lawyer's red tails,) Persian grooms, attendants, &c. were despatched with the Ambassador, Mirza Abdallah, over land, taking every precaution in travelling through Germany and France, that the lady should not be seen—arrived in London, the English grooms sneered at the horses, and said their tails were painted: the liberty boys declared that the fair Circassian was a slave, and that slavery could not be allowed in England. She was then hurried down to Portsmouth, and immediately embarked for Mahometan land.

June 28.—Wind N. A Brazilian privateer boat in sight, N. N. E.; she afterwards anchored about twelve miles distant N E., and remained for some hours. Gun Boat No. 13, and the armed boat Comet, went in pursuit, but without effect; the privateer made sail towards Colonia.

Admiral Brown visited the French schooner *Hydra* this morning; she fired a salute upon the occasion.

Arrived, twelve sail of small craft from the Uruguay, under convoy of Gun Boat No. 7. The opposite coast visible, and the Brazilian squadron seen at anchor below Ensenada, their distance from Buenos Ayres more than 30 miles.

29.—Wind N, Arrived, several zumacas, balan-dras, &c. from the Parana, and 3 boats from the Banda Oriental. Some German seldiers, deserters from the Brazilian army were landed; they appeared well clothed, and athletic looking men. The schooner of war Uruguay fired a gun, and sailed with a convoy to the Northward.

30.—Wind S. with rain. A fleet of small vessels came out of the Boca and sailed for the Parana, under convoy of a Gun Boat. Arrived, two launches from the Banda Oriental.

July 1.—Wind S. Several small vessels arrived and sailed from and to the Northward. Arrived, at half past 6 o'clock this evening, a boat late belonging to the Brazilian frigate Nitchteroy, with 8 seamen, (Englishmen and Americans,) deserters from that ship. They lowered the boat from the vessel under pretext of saving a man, who had jumped overboard, and immediately pulled off—three boats pursued them; they made for Ensenada, and from thence to Buenos Ayres. They report that the Brazilian squadron are in a discontented state, and that Capt. Eyre took command of the Nitchteroy on 27th ult.

2.—Wind W. S. W. Sailed, four balandras and launches for the Parana.

3.—Wind N. Arrived, a Gun Boat with convoy from the Parana. A Brazilian privateer launch, with a captured zumaca seen this afternoon steering towards Colonia.

4.—Wind E. The American vessels in the Inner Roads fired salutes at sunrise, at 12 o'clock, and at sunset, having their national flag at the peak, the flag of this Republic at the main, and the French flag at the fore, it being the anniversary of the independence of the U. States of North America. The schooner of war Maldonado was decorated with colours and signal flags, and most of the National Squadron had the American flag at the fore. Arrived, a boat and some small craft from the Northward.

The American brig Osprey, Collins, with a general cargo, got on shore a little to the Northward of Rio Negro (Patagonia) in May last—crew and cargo saved, the latter much damaged. The brig it is thought will go to pieces.

To the Editor of the British Packet.

Mr. Editor,—Your correspondent, in reply to my observations relative to the population of this city, wishes the public to think that the data upon which he has made his calculations, is preferable to the one adopted by me. Suppose we examine what his data is, and then try its application: he begins by stating that in consequence *of the difficulty of getting the number of the inhabitants*, and of the impossibility of repeating it so often as was necessary, Statesticians were driven to devise a plan, but he neither names the devisers of the plan, nor the time of its being devised; but the plan was a calculation of the proportion which the births and deaths bore *to the gross amount of the inhabitants*. May I presume to inquire by what census the whole amount of the three generalities of France was obtained, and the date of the same: and whether he thinks it was taken with equal care or accuracy with that in Great Britain in the years 1801–11–21. He admits that the proportion between the births and the gross population, according to his data, is not suitable for such cities as London and Paris, and on that account he adds 2½ persons to the amount of the population, in proportion to every birth, but he has given no clear data upon which he makes such an addition, and the only census which he has named he admits is not a suitable one for large cities. I have every reason to think, that the census as taken in Great Britain in the years 1811 and 21, is more likely to form a correct

data than your correspondent's census without date, of the three Generalities of France. Now suppose we first try by his data, what will be the amount of the population within the bills of mortality of London, as far as we have the register of births, for the year 1222.—

Total number of births 27,679+28=775,012 the presumed total of inhabitants, according to his data.

Since I last addressed you, I have found a printed abstract of the census for the three years of 1801, 11, 21, by which I am now enabled to prove that if my calculation of the amount of the population in the bills of mortality was incorrect, it was from its being taken at too low, rather than too high a rate. As the abstract in my possession does not give the amount of the inhabitants of London separately, I can only get at it by taking the amount of the population for the counties of Middlesex and Surry, and deducting from that amount a fair allowance for those parts of the counties which are not included within the bills of mortality; for which purpose I have allowed for the population of those parts of the two counties, the same amount as the census gives for those of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, which I think persons acquainted with those counties, will consider as an ample allowance. As we have no census for 1822, I have made a proper allowance for the regular increase of the population for that year, by adding 1-10 of the increase during the ten years from 1811 to 1821, to the amount of the census for 1821, and I find the result to be, for the whole of the population, of the bills of mortality — 1,353,215

From which must be deducted the amount of the two parishes of St. Marylebone and St. Pancras, and as my calculation was too low upon the general total, I will also add a little to this, and instead of putting 120,000, I will allow — 150,000

1,203,215

From this calculation it must evidently appear, that there are great errors either in your correspondent's data or in mine: with whom the error rests, I will leave to the judgment of your readers; but I will presume to work the rule of proportion on my amount, to ascertain the population of this city, which will stand thus:—

As 27,672 : 1,203,215 : : 2,701 : 117,377 the presumed population of Buenos Ayres.

J. B.

THEATRE.

La Cenerentola notwithstanding its many repetitions, attracted a numerous audience on Saturday evening last. The music of this opera is very fascinating, and so is Doña Angelita, and i she continues to sing thus charmingly, she must be dignified as the Sontag, and Pasta, of our Theatre. Rosquellas was (as he always is) gentlemanly and pleasing. Vacani appeared in excellent spirits, not only exerting his fine voice with great effect, but made the scenes with Don Magnifico very laughable, particularly in the duet, "Un secreto d' importanza." The Don in Vera's hands was likewise amusing; he traversed the stage, put on his red hat and plumes, and bowed when the audience applauded, with vast importance.

During the week two of Moratin's comedies have been well performed, viz. on 29th ult. *El Si de las Niñas*, in which Doña Antonina in the character of a querulous old woman, displayed some good acting. It rained as the audience left the theatre, and no shelter for the ladies, and their white dresses—not one coach was to be found *upon the stand*. On the 1st inst. the *Megigata*; Doña Trinidad excels in this piece. Velarde's *forte* is in comedy, and he looked on this evening quite a *master Abel*. Felipe David is a consummate little rogue: he made very serious people laugh at his nonchalance and attempts to escape when his rogueries were discovered.

Advertisements.

A BRITISH MERCHANT, now residing in Buenos Ayres with his family, who has been regularly brought up in Lancashire to the Cotton Manufactory, Calico Printing business, &c. &c. as well as to *general trade*: fully competent to conduct the most extensive concerns, would be happy to enter into Partnership with some respectable old established House in this city, who have good connections in the interior part of this country, to open a House of general business *here*, and in *Liverpool* or Manchester, at the conclusion of Peace.

As the advertiser is very well known, and has most extensive and valuable connections in almost eveoy principal trading town of Great Britain, he would have no objection to residing in England, and leaving his family here for the present, as he feels fully confident that he could be of the utmost service, in purchasing *good goods* on very *low terms* and on *long credit*, and in obtaining excellent consignments, &c. when the business is more properly established. For further particulars, apply by letter addressed to A. B. and left at the office of this paper. *Secrecy will be strictly observed.*

SATURNINO MARTINEZ and JOHN Q. BEECH having engaged the State Printing Office for a term of years, offer their services to the public in any branch of that profession.

PRICE OF SPECIE.

Doubloons, $48\frac{1}{4}$ á $49\frac{1}{4}$ dollars each.—

On Monday several contracts became due, which caused a momentary rise from $49 á $50\frac{1}{4}$ but owing to these contracts being either fulfilled or otherwise settled, the price fell the same day to 49; there are still large contracts pending, and some will become due on the 10th and 15th insts.

Spanish (Patriot) Dollars, 185 á 195 per cent. premium.—Considerable demand.

Silver in bars, 11 dineros, $16\frac{1}{2}$ á 17 rials per dinero.

Gold in do. 20 quilates $17\frac{1}{2}$ á 18 rials.—

Some considerable sales were made at these prices.

Public Stocks, 48 á 49.—At which prices heavy sums were transacted.

Exchange on London, 17d per dollar.—

The operations in Exchange have been very limited, owing to little demand, in expectation of better prices being obtained after the departure of the Deputies.

Exchange on Monte Video, 140 á 150 per ct. prem. nom.

Do. on Rio, 64 á 70 per cent. premium nominal.

Hides, prime matedero dry, 10 á $10\frac{1}{4}$.—The demand has been rather lively.

Manufactures and Brazil produce.—The demand regular.

Sugars, $24 á 28 per arroba.

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